## Message Text

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USOAS DEL 29

FOR THE SECRETARY; ARA/AMB TODMAN; L/ARA WILLIS

FROM USDEL OASGA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG OAS SHUM

SUBJ: RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE

**REF: GRENADA USDEL 22** 

1. GENERAL COMMITTEE MET MORNING JUNE 18 AND COMMITTEE I DEBATE ON HUMAN RIGHTS POSTPONED UNTIL AFTERNOON. AT THAT TIME VENEZUELA, UNITED STATES, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND COSTA RICA PRESENTED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS,

 $(TEST\ FOLLOWS\ SEPTEL).$ 

2. OUR OVERALL STRATEGY IS TO MAINTAIN SOLIDARITY WITH VENEZUELA, MEXICO, AND THE OTHER DEMOCRACIES. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ANY OR ALL OF OUR RESOLUTIONS COULD GO DOWN TO DEFEAT. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO LOSE IN GOOD COMPANY WITH STRONG RESOLUTIONS THAN TO WATER THEM DOWN TO POINT WHERE THEY ARE MEANINGLESS. HERE IS OUR ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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ON RESOLUTIONS WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL BE VOTED ON DURING THE COURSE OF THE COMMITTEE DEBATE.

3. IN OUR OVERALL RESOLUTION, WE HAVE ELIMINATED ALL REFERENCES TO TERRORISM. THIS IS ESSENTIAL BECAUSE MEXICO, VENEZUELA, AND THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARRIBEAN STATES BELIEVE STRONGLY, AND WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THEY

ARE RIGHT, THAT IT IS A MISTAKE TO MIX THE TWO ISSUES.
WE COULD LOSE A NUMBER OF VOTES ON THIS BUT WE BELIEVE
THAT, IN THE LONG RUN, WE WILL BE ABLE TO FASHION A
SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION AND CAN GAIN THE NECESSARY 13 VOTES.
HOWEVER, AT SOME POINT DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE UNITED
STATES IS GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WE WILL NOT
ACCEPT ANY FURTHER WEAKENING OF THE LANGUAGE AND WOULD
PREFER TO LOSE ON A STRONG RESOLUTION THAN BE WITH THE
MAJORITY ON ONE THAT IS ESSENTIALLY MEANINGLESS.

4. VENEZUELA HAS INTRODUCED A SEPARATE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE IAHRC REPORT ON CHILE. IT IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS LAST YEAR'S IN THAT IT WELCOMES THE REPORT AND REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE ITS WATCHING BRIEF ON CHILE, REPORTING TO NEXT YEAR'S OASGA. THIS RESOLUTION HAS NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS. VENEZUELA'S MACHIN BELIEVES HE HAS EIGHT VOTES. THE MOST OPTIMISTIC COUNT WOULD NOT GO OVER TEN. ANDRES AGUILAR, CHAIRMAN OF THE IAHRC, TOLD US AT LUNCH THAT HE HAS NO PARTICULAR INTEREST IN PERPETUATING A SPECIAL STATUS FOR CHILE OR HAVING GA ASK FOR ANOTHER SPECIAL REPORT. HE POINTS OUT THAT IF THE SITUATION IN CHILE WARRANTS IT. THE COMMISSION HAS FULL AUTHORITY AND WILL DO A SPECIAL REPORT WHETHER IT HAS AUTHORIZATION FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR NOT. COMMISSION IS GRANTED THIS AUTHORITY BY ITS STATUTE AND REGULATIONS, AND THE ASSEMBLY CAN NEITHER ADD NOR DETRACT.

4. CHILE OBVIOUSLY KNOWS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH VOTES TO PASS A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A FOURTH SPECIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORT. THEREFORE, RATHER THAN MAKING FUTILE STAND ON VENEZUELA'S DRAFT RESOLUTION, WE WOULD PREFER THE FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION. AFTER OBTAINING MACHIN'S AGREEMENT, WE WOULD APPROACH CHILE AND SEEK TO PERSUADE ITS DELEGATION TO ACCEPT A RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE REPORT, REQUESTING CHILE TO HEED THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS, AND STIPULATING THAT CHILE REPORT BACK TO THE COMMISSION REGARDING STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE PRIOR TO CONVENING OF THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THIS COURSE WOULD HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF TERMINATING THE COMMISSION'S WORK ON CHILE IN A DIGNIFIED WAY AND PLACING PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY ON CHILE TO IMPROVE ITS PERFORMANCE. IF CHILE REFUSES TO ACCEPT SUCH A RESOLUTION, WE SHOULD THEN CO-SPONSOR THE VENEZUELAN DRAFT AND OBTAIN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VOTES, REALIZING THAT DEFEAT IS INEVITABLE.

- 6. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT. AUTHORIZE ABOVE COURSE OF ACTION.
- 7. ON TIEM 34, INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, WE BELIEVE THAT MINOR MODIFICATION, DELETING IAHRC REFERENCE, CAN MAKE THE DOMINICAN

REPUBLIC'S RESOLUTION EXCELLENT, AND WE PROPOSE TO CO-SPONSOR. SOUTHERN CONE GOVERNMENTS WILL SUPPORT ARGENTINA'S DRAFT, BUT THE DOMINICAN RESOLUTION WILL HAVE STRONG APPEAL TO SUCH COUNTRIES AS ECUADOR, PERU, HONDURAS, ETC.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT.AUTHORIZE USDEL TO CON-SPONSOR THE DOMINICAN RESOLUTION.

9. SEVERAL OF OUR FRIENDS, SPECIFICALLY JAMAICA AND PANAMA, WILL OPPOSE CONSIDERING THE FIFTH REPORT ON CUBA OR ANY RESOLUTION TAKING NOTE OF IT, ARGUING THAT CUBA IS NOT PPRESENT AND CANNOT DEFEND ITSELF. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE NOT TO ATTEMPT TO PASS A RESOLUTION AT LEAST NOTING THE CUBAN REPORT AND REQUESTING THAT THE COMMISSION CONTINUE WATCHING THE SITUATION IN CUBA. IN THE FIRST PLACE IT WOULD BE A BAD PRECEDENT TO PERMIT A REPORT OF THE IAHRC TO GO UNACKNOWLEDGED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN THE SECOND PLACE, IT SEEMS TO US, WE CANNOT CONFIDENTIAL

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TAKE A STRONG STAND ON CHILE URUGUAY ET AL AND NOT SPEAK OUT CLEARLY ON THE SITUATION IN CUBA. AGUILAR AND FARER CONCUR COMPLETELY IN THIS APPROACH.

10. ACTION REQUESTED REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORIZATION TO INFORM INTERESTED DELEGATIONS, IF WE ARE APPROACHED, THAT USDEL WOULD VOTE FOR RESOLUTION ON CUBAN REPORT IF LANGUAGE NON-CONTROVERSIAL. WE WILL WIRE TEXT IMMEDIATELY IF SUCH A RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REQUEST FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

11. COMMITTEE I RECESSED UNTIL MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 20. MCGEE

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